

# God Has Given Us Ten Problem-Solving Devices Tenth in the Line of Battle Is **Occupation with Christ**

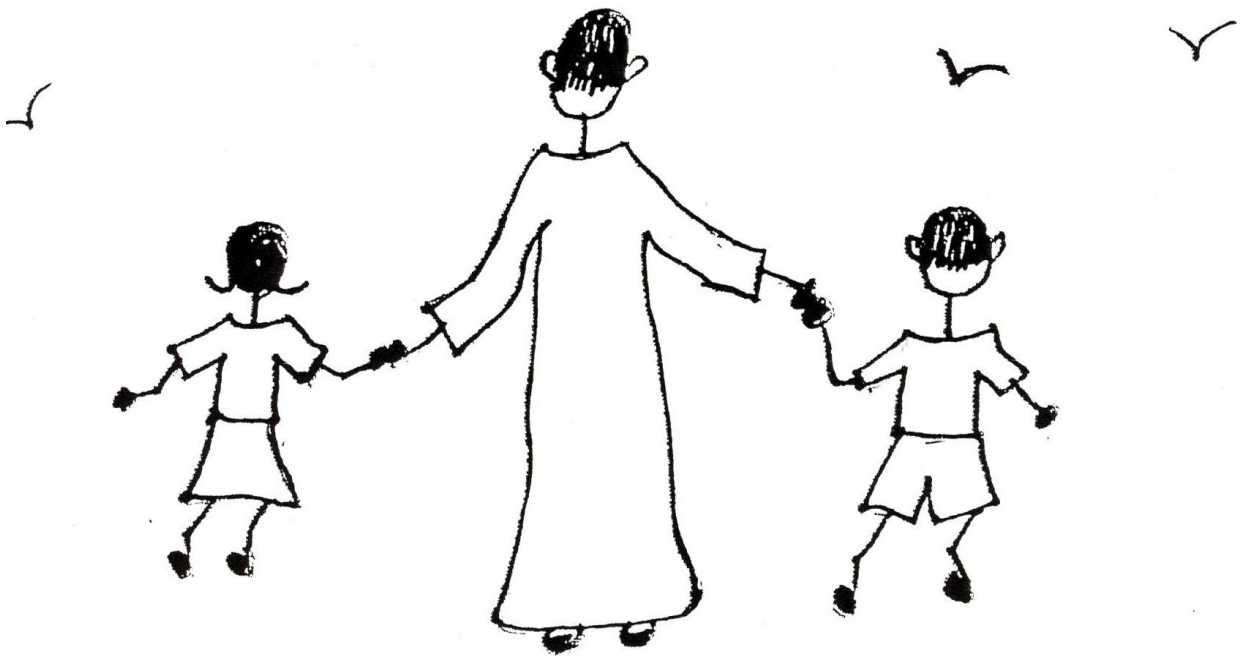
## The Believer's Front Line for Spiritual Battle

Rebound, Filling of the Holy Spirit, Faith-Rest Drill, Grace Orientation, Doctrinal Orientation, Personal Sense of Destiny, Personal Love for God the Father, Impersonal Love for All Mankind, Sharing the Happiness of God, Occupation with Christ



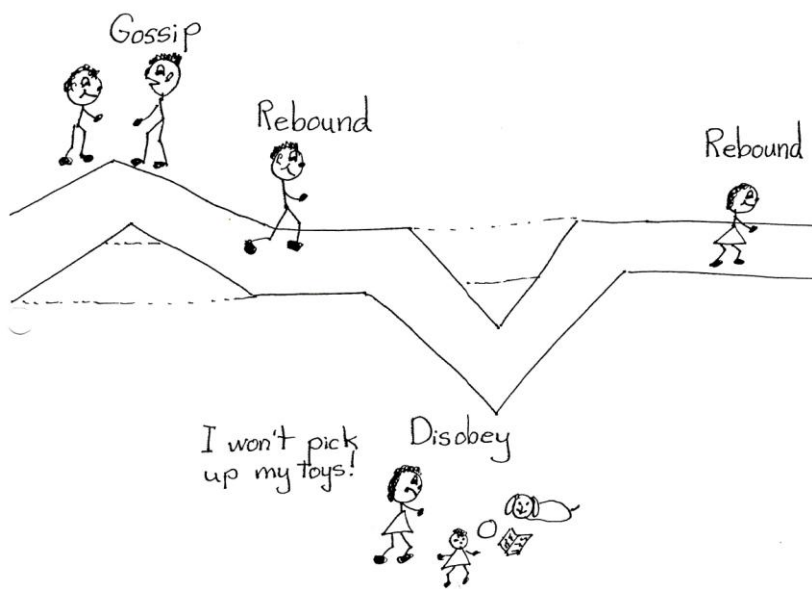
"With him [king of Assyria] is only the arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles." 2 Chronicles 32:8

The Lord Jesus Christ has always been and will always be our best Friend. We have to learn about Him through Bible doctrine so that we can truly realize what a friend He is. The more we learn and believe about Jesus, the more we will see how amazing He is. We will come to see how great His thinking is and we will want to think like He does. We will want to be occupied with Jesus and His thoughts. We will want to have **occupation with Christ!**



2 Peter 3:18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

As believers, we start out as babies. For our spiritual nourishment or soul food, we have just "milk". However, we have great "milk". We grow on these problem-solving tools: Rebound, Filling of the Holy Spirit, and the Faith-Rest Drill. **Rebound** keeps us filled with the **Holy Spirit**. The Holy Spirit teaches us what we need to know in Bible doctrine.

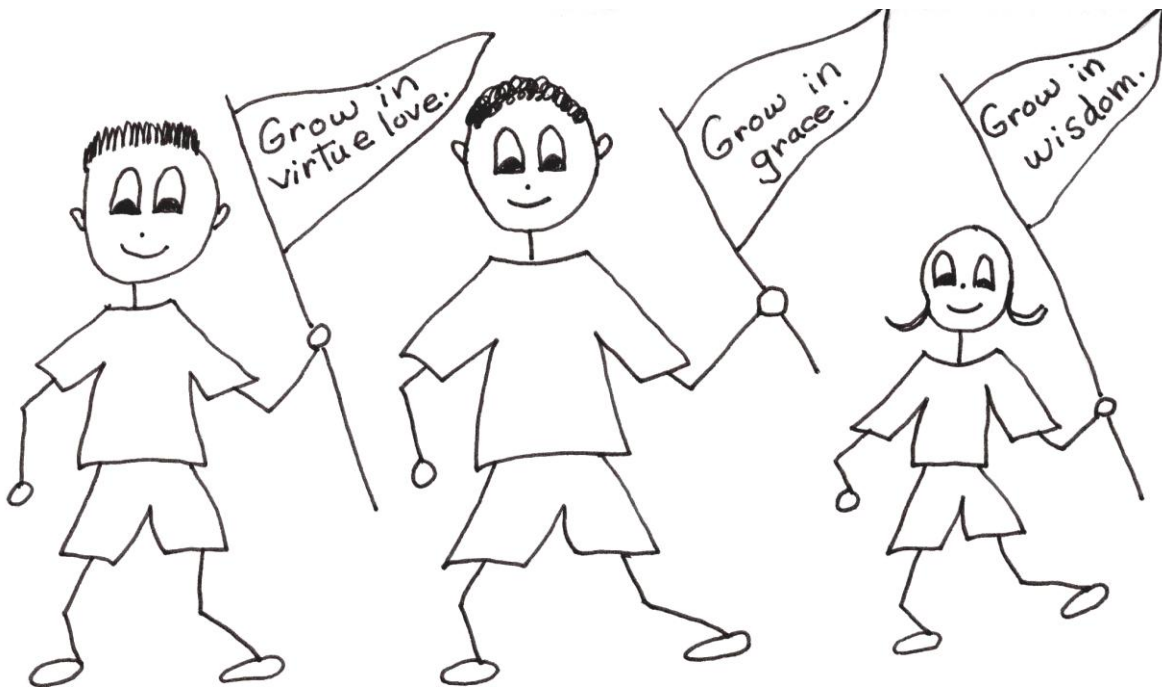


1 Peter 2:1-3 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Then we can put our **faith** and trust in what God teaches us in His Word. We will be motivated to learn and use His promises. As we take in this wonderful nourishment, the Holy Spirit will change our point of view to God's point of view. We will be growing up spiritually!



As we grow in our spiritual life, we'll get to a point where we are ready for more solid soul food like "mashed bananas and cream cereal". Then after a little while, some "mashed meat and vegetables" will be on our plate. We'll be at the place where we are using the problem-solving devices of Grace Orientation and Doctrinal Orientation.

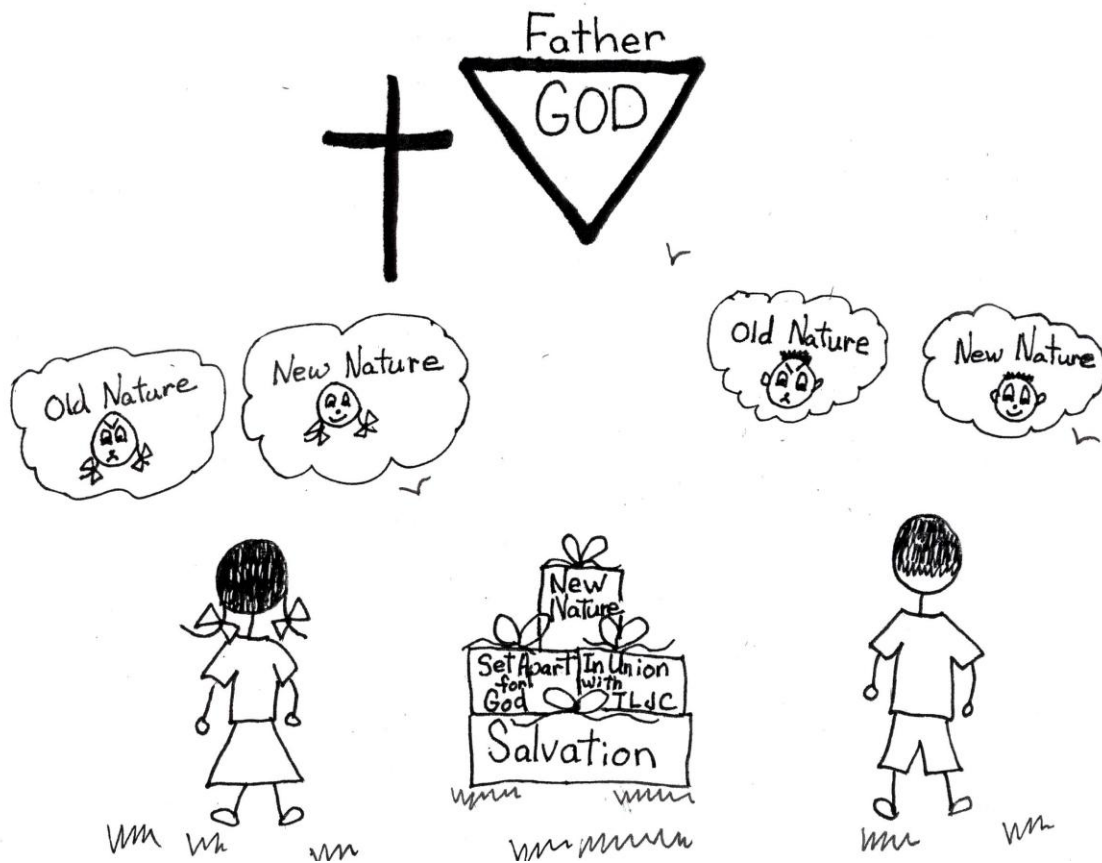


2 Peter 3:17-18 Therefore dear friends, since you already know this [people will distort the truth], be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

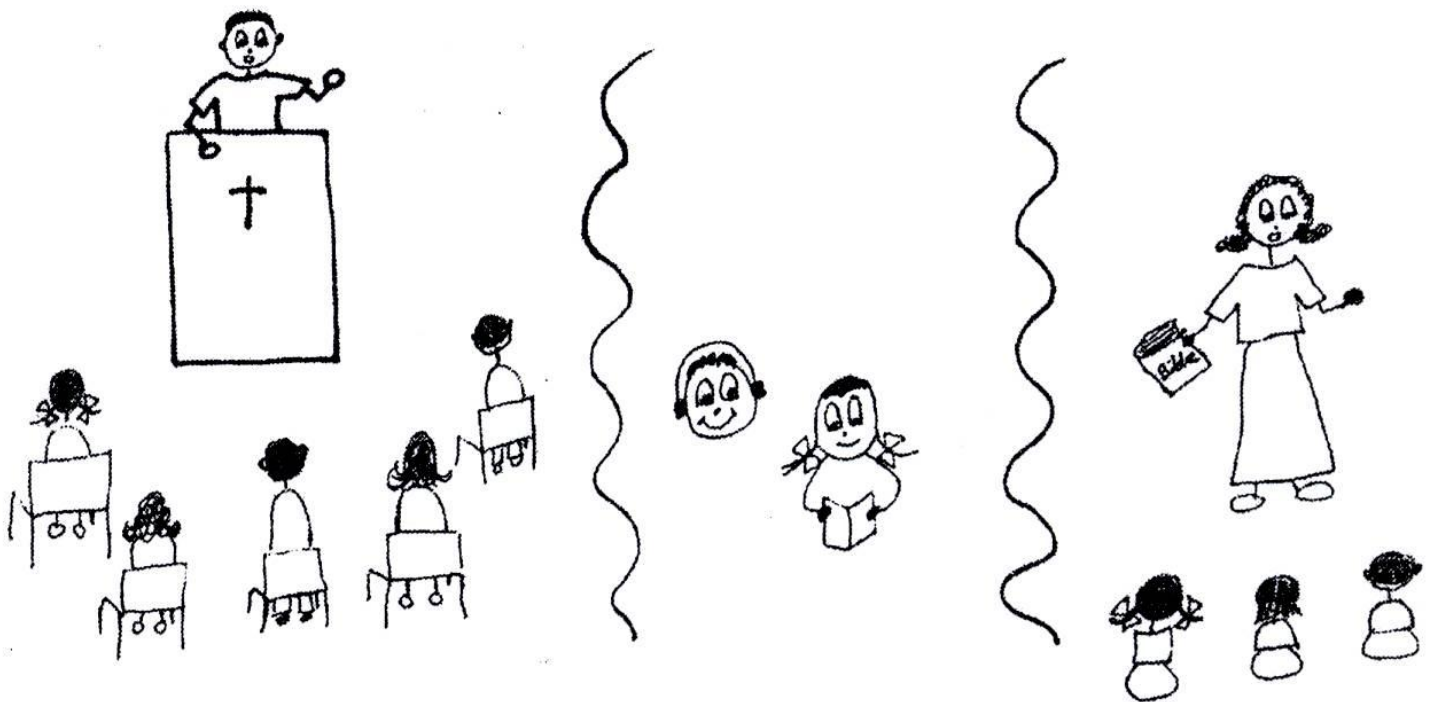
As we keep developing in our spiritual life, we'll get to the point of having solid food! What a treat! We'll be using the problem-solving devices of Personal Sense of Destiny, Personal Love for God the Father, and Impersonal Love for All Mankind! Now we will be ready to progress to a gourmet meal! We'll be experiencing some of the Sharing of the Happiness of God. We'll want to develop that even more and come to the peaceful place of having **Occupation with Christ!**



Let's take a look at our perfect nourishment in the spiritual life, **Occupation with Christ**. When we are occupied with Christ, we live in our new nature. We think with divine viewpoint. Sure, there are going to be times that we will slip into our old nature and use human viewpoint. We'll just rebound!

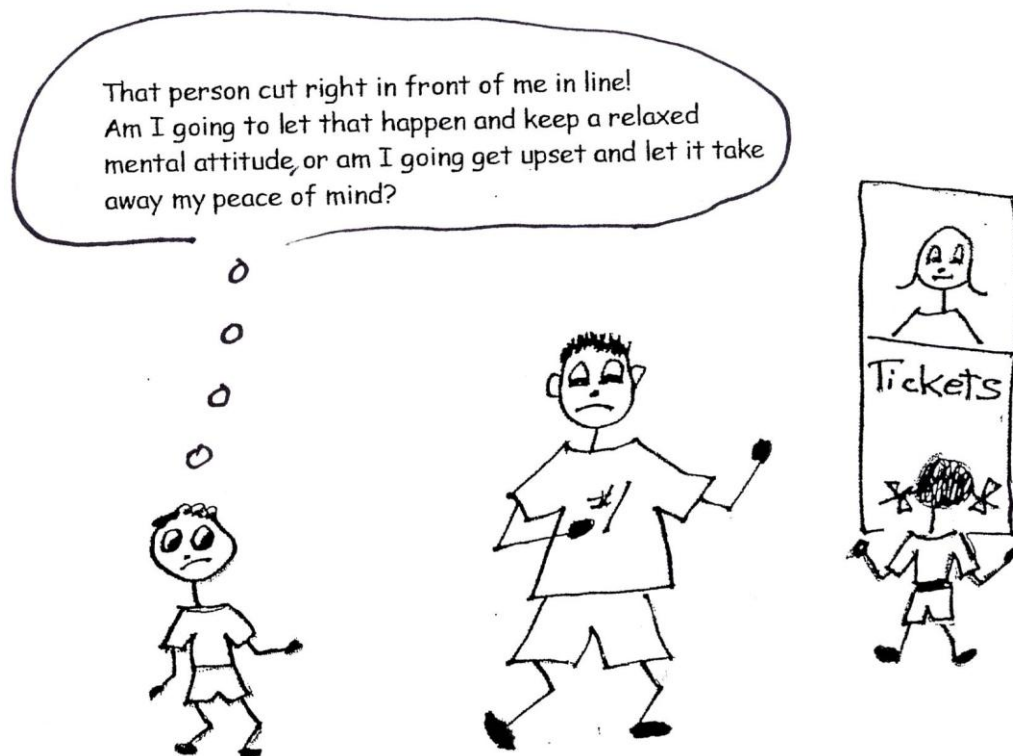


When we live in our new nature, we have the thinking of Christ. We are able to look at ourselves and others for what we are in our old natures: corrupt, wicked, hypocrites, and liars. I could say more, but I think you get the picture. We are able to see ourselves and others in our new natures: perfect in God's eyes. Now that is a good sight! Through learning, believing, and using Bible doctrine, the thinking of Christ, we can all come to **occupation with Christ**. We can all have fantastic soul food and nourishment for our spiritual growth in our new nature!!



Luke 9:23-24 Then He said to them all: "If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me will save it.

God knows that we can't get to know Him and have **occupation with Christ** without going through sufferings or tests. We learn many commands and promises from God through studying Bible doctrine. We say that we believe them. Then God tests us to see if we really believe them. For instance, let's say that a friend acts unkind to us. We are told not to repay him or her for the unkind act. We are told that God will discipline him or her. God knows the best way to discipline all of us and get us back on the right track. We are told to have impersonal love for all.



Philippians 3:10-11 I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.

If we believe these commands, we will trust God and have a relaxed mental attitude. Now I'm not saying that it is easy to do. But, the more we use the power of the Holy Spirit, and the more we trust in God's ways, the easier the sufferings or tests will be. We will be thinking more like Jesus. We will be on our way to **occupation with Christ**.



Listen to teaching on tape or CD.



Read lessons.

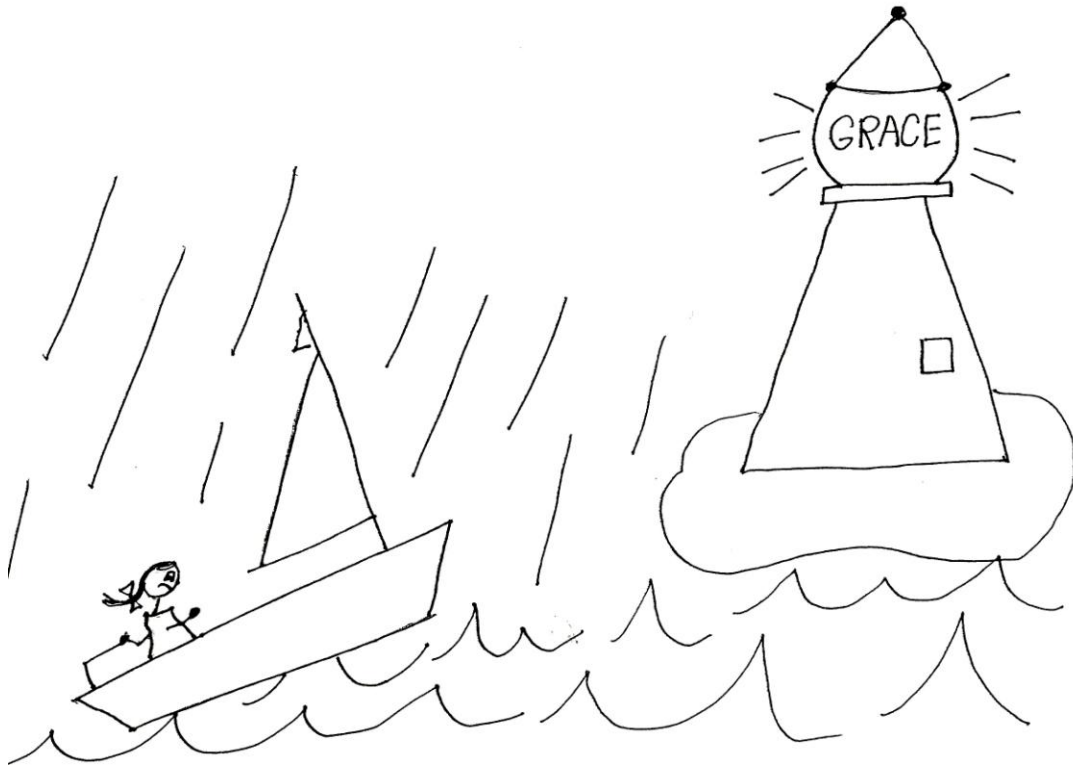


Listen to teacher at Bible study.



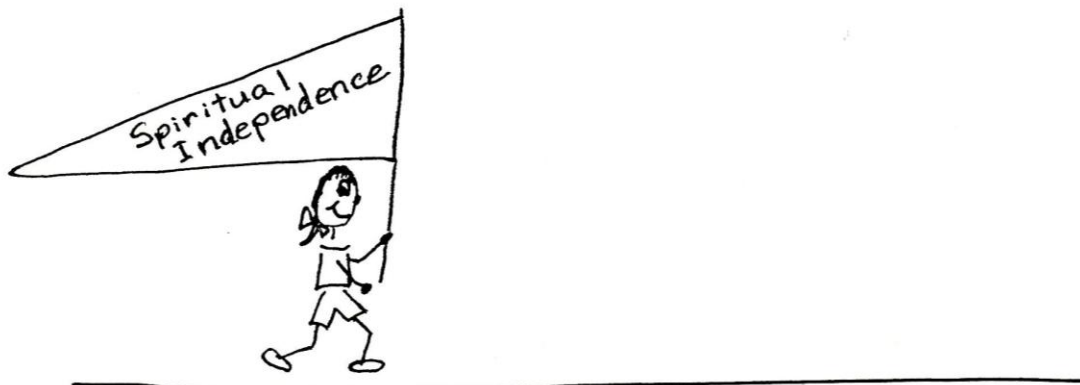
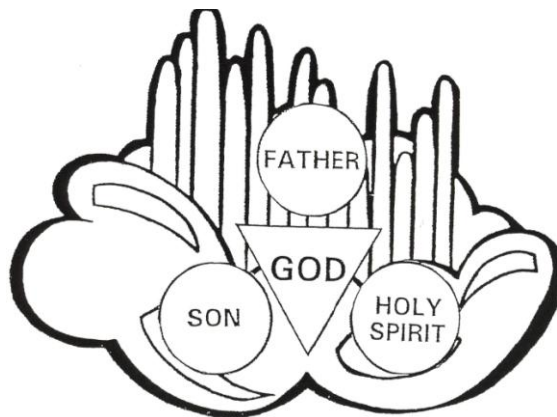
When I'm filled with the Holy Spirit I'm on the right track.

We will go through three stages of growth and suffering to reach maximum **occupation with Christ**. First, we will have spiritual self esteem. We will be confident in life because of learning, knowing, and using Bible doctrine. We will have undeserved suffering from God during this time to keep us humble. It is amazing how easy it is to think that we are fantastic and forget Who made us the way we are. We had nothing to do with it! God reminds us!



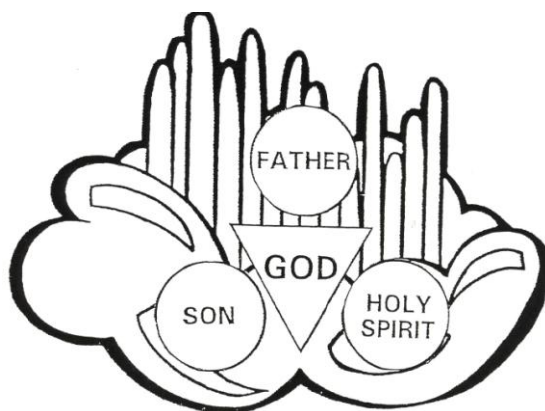
Romans 12:3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sound judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.

Then we will get to spiritual autonomy, or spiritual independence. This means that we will be independent of human viewpoint and dependent on divine viewpoint. We will become independent of people and more dependent on God. During this time, we will get suffering or testing to make us grow even more. It is called momentum testing. It helps us to grow to spiritual maturity! God and Jesus are always "cheering" for us and helping us along the way!



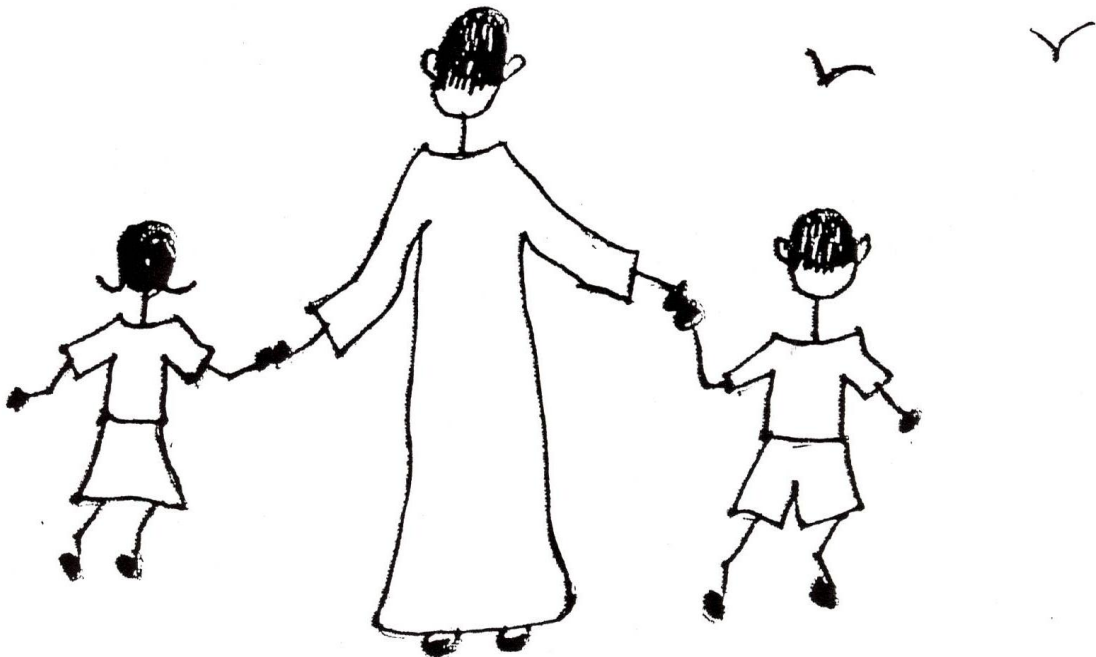
Colossians 3:1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts [minds] on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set you minds on things above, not on earthly things.

When we reach spiritual maturity, God will give us evidence testing. This is suffering or testing that will show the angels and people that God's plan works! By going through the suffering and staying positive to Bible doctrine, we give evidence that it works! It gives God all the glory because He gives us everything that we need to get to spiritual maturity. He gives us salvation, the indwelling of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Bible doctrine, and the ten problem-solving devices. We all have equal opportunity and equal privilege to pass the tests. We can all pass them with flying colors!



Job 36:15  
But to those  
who suffer  
He delivers in  
their  
suffering; He  
speaks to  
them in their  
affliction.

When we are occupied with Christ, our mind is busy with His thinking. We are able to keep stress out of our minds. Our minds are relaxed. We have a relaxed mental attitude! We can focus on the Lord Jesus Christ's love for us, and our love for Him. Christ will be at home and comfortable in our minds. We can be at home and comfortable with our best Friend. Let's be **occupied with Christ** and relax!



Ephesians 3:16-19 I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may be at home in your hearts [minds] through faith [Bible doctrine]. And I pray that you, being rooted and established [grounded] in virtue-love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

*God Gave Us Ten Problem-Solving Devices  
Tenth in the Line of Battle Is  
Occupation with Christ*

References: Robert R. McLaughlin Bible Ministries

[www.gbible.org](http://www.gbible.org)

Doctrine on the Ten Problem-Solving Devices

Lessons: 3-19-00, 3-21-00, 3-22-00, 3-23-00, 3-24-00,  
4-05-00 (Occupation with Christ)